



**What Every New
Board Member
Needs to Know**

Orientation Highlights

1 Governance



- *Public Law 107-279* stipulates that the Governing Board develop policy and oversee NAEP, and that NCES design and administer the assessments
- Law requires administration of NAEP math and reading at grades 4 and 8 every other year

2 Assessment Content and Design



- A random sample of students receives a portion of cognitive items
- Math, reading, science, and writing are sampled at the national and state levels; all other subjects are at the national level only

Orientation Highlights

3 Development and Administration



- Governing Board defines content to be assessed and develops content frameworks and specifications
 - NCES develops assessment items and collects, scores, analyzes, and reports on assessment data
 - Assessment cycle can span up to five years
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4 Reporting and Dissemination



- NAEP results are reported as scale scores, percentile scores, and achievement level percentages
- Governing Board sets, plans, and executes the release-day event; NCES Commissioner releases the data
- NCES and the Governing Board conduct special studies and analyses

Orientation Highlights

5 Participants, Stakeholders, and Expert Panels



- Successful NAEP administrations require support from many participants and relationships with state and district assessment leaders
- NAEP thought leaders and expert panels help ensure that NAEP maintains its high quality

6 Budget



- There are multiple budgeting factors that go into maintaining the gold standard of assessments
- We need to balance innovation and programmatic changes with available funding